

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 777

INFO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI UNN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3053

PLEASE PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA AND OMSN

CINCPAC REP FOR STATUS LNO FOR HICOM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, TQ

SUBJECT: TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL 41ST SESSION: SUMMARY

REF: USUN 1917

SUMMARY: TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (TC) APPROVED VISITING MISSION TO OBSERVE MARIANAS PELBISCITE (OVER SOVIET OPPOSITION) THUS RECOGNIZING LEGITIMACY OF ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESENT STALEMATE IN NEGOTIATIONS CAME THROUGH CLEARLY, BUT COUNCIL SHOWED IMPATIENCE AT LACK OF PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-GOVERNMENT. PRESSURES FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF TRUSTEESHIP LIKELY TO GROW. END SUMMARY.

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1. MARIANAS. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL SESSION MAY 27-

JUNE 7 AUTHORIZED (OVER SOVIET OPPOSITION) VISITING MISSION TO OBSERVE MARIANAS PLEBISCITE, THUS ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESENCE AT ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND IMPLICITLY RECOGNIZING LEGITIMACY OF PLEBISCITE.

2. BRITISH-FRENCH-AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT WAS LOGICAL STEP IN LONG PROCESS OF EDUCATION ON THE ISSUES INVOLVED, THROUGH COUNCIL SESSIONS, INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, AND PARTICIPATION IN PREVIOUS VISITING MISSIONS. CAREFUL WORK BORE FRUIT, AS DID OUT TOLERANCE FOR CONVENIENCE OF STUBBORN FRENCH RESPRESENTATIVE IN SETTING DATES OF VISITING MISSION TO MARIANAS.

3. SOVIET OPPOSITION TOOK FORM OF VOTE AGAINST THE MISSION. OTHERWISE, IT WAS VERY SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS YEAR'S AND NOT VERY MUCH MORE POLEMIC. SOV'S HAVE CONSISTENTLY MADE CLEAR THEIR OPPOSITION TO SEPARATION OF MARIANAS. WHILE THERE WERE RUMORS THAT THEY MIGHT REQUEST A RULING FROM UN LEGAL COUNSEL ON LEGALITY OF MARIANAS PLEBISCITE, THEY DID NOT DO SO. FURTHERMORE, DESPITE SOME EARLY HINTS OF OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS ON PART OF SOV REP NEKLESSA--WHICH COULD HAVE MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR VISITING MISSION TO DEPART ON TIME --HE BECAME MORE COOPERATIVE AS THE SESSION PROGRESSED AND AGREED TO FINAL SESSION SATURDAY, JUNE 7 SO THAT MISSION COULD DEPART ON SCHEDULE JUNE 9.

4. FIVE PRO-CONVENANT PETITIONERS MADE GOOD IMPRESSION WITH SOLID, CONVINCING STATEMENTS. FAILURE OF MOST VOCAL OPPONENTS TO APPEAR AS PETITIONER ALSO HAD IMPACT. NEITHER OF THE TWO WHO DID APPEAR--AN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL OF QUESTIONABLE CREDITIALS AND TINIAN PETITIONER SAN NICOLAS --WAS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE.

5. WHILE ACCEPTING THE PLEBISCITE, OUR FIRENDS ON THE COUNCIL ARE SENSITIVE TO ANY EVIDENCE THAT THE US IS "RAILROADING" THE SEPARATION OR NOT LIVING UP TO ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT. THUS IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REITERATE OUR INTENTION TO SEEK TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE ENTIRE TERRITORY SIMULTANEOUSLY. IT WILL BE OF CONTINUING IMPORTANCE TO CONFIDENTIAL

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SHOW THAT WE ARE SCRUPULOUSLY CARRYING OUT OUR TRUSTEESHIP OBLIGATIONS, AND ARE NOT REGARDING THE MARINAS SEPARATION AS A FAIT ACCOMPLI UNTIL THE TRUSTEESHIP IS ENDED. WE REITERATE OUR RECOMMENDATIONS (USUN 1917) THAT THE US NOT RULE THE MARIANAS OUT OF THE JULY 8 REFERENDUM OR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, AND TAKE NO STEP TOWARD SETTING UP SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION UNTIL THE US CONGRESS HAS APPROVED THE COVENANT.

6. OTHER NEGOTIATIONS. #(HQR=

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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10. BRITISH, FRENCH AND AUSTRALIANS CLEARLY THINK
THAT GREATER PROGRESS TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE
POSSIBLE EVEN BEFORE END OF TRUSTEESHIP. FIELDS THEY

PARTICULARLY CITE ARE RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF VETO POWER AND GREATER AUTHORITY TO COM, ESPECIALLY IN BUDGET. THEY ALSO RECOMMEND SPEEDING UP TIMETABLE FOR TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP, IF THE MICRONESIANS ARE WILLING.

11. BRITISH, FRENCH, AUSTRALIANS ALSO SHOW CONSIDERABLE CONCERN THAT REST OF MICRONESIA NOT BE TREATED AS A POOR RELATION IN CONTRAST TO THE MARIANAS. ALTHOUGHT THEY WILL ACCEPT MARIANAS' SEPARATION, WE CAN EXPECT AMPLE CRITICISM IF MARIANAS FLOURISH WHILE REST OF MICRONESIA REMAINS STAGNANT. THEY RECOGNIZE THAT OTHER DISTRICTS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO MAKE UP THEIR MINDS WHILE MARIANAS HAVE; NEVERTHELESS THEY STILL HOLD US AS ADMINISTERING POWER RESPONSIBLE FOR WELL-BEING OF ENTIRE TRUST TERRITORY.

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12. IN GENERAL, COM REPRESENTATIVES DID NOT DO WELL, THOUGHT CONGRESSMAN SETIK GAVE BETTER ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF THAT SENATOR KENDALL. THEIR PREPARED STATEMENTS, OBVIOUSLY WRITTEN FROM THEM, WERE STRONG IF NOT ALWAYS INTERNALLY CONSISTENT; BUT IN ANSWERS TO EXTENSIVE QUESTIONING BY COUNCIL MEMBERS, THEY SHOWED UP POORLY.

13. INTEREST OF COMMITTEE OF 24. WORTH NOTING WAS THE HIGH DEGREE OF INTEREST IN THIS COUNCIL SESSION SHOWN BY THE COMMITTEE OF 24 (DECONONIZATION COMMITTEE, WHOSE AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS TTPI WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE.) CUBAN, TANZANIAN AND BULGARIAN AMBASSADORS, ALL IN POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY IN COMMITTEE WERE FREQUENT SPECTATORS AT TC SESSION. THE ANTI-MARIANA COVENANT PETITIONERS ALSO TESTIFIED AT LENGTH BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

14. PAPUA NEW GUINEA. CONSIDERATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA WAS POSTPONED AGAIN, MUCH TO THE AUSTRALIANS' EMBARRASSMENT, BECAUSE THE INDEPENDENCE DATE HAS NOT YET BEEN SET. A RESUMED SESSION IS TO BE HELD BEFORE THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETS IN SEPTEMBER.

15. CAUTIONS FOR FUTURE. THE US EMERGES FROM THIS TC SESSION IN GOOD SHAPE: THE MARIANAS' PLEBISCITE AND EVENTUAL SEPARATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED, AND THE ONUS FOR RESUMPTIONS OF STATUS NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE REST OF MICRONESIA CLEARLY RESTS WITH THE MICRONESIANS. IF THERE HAS NOT BEEN REAL PROGRESS BY NEXT YEAR IN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, WE FORSEE GROWING DIFFICULTIES IN THE COUNCIL EVEN WITH OUR FRIENDS. THE COUNCIL SEES MICRONESIA AS READY FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION. HOWEVER THE BLAME MAY BE APPORTIONED, THE COUNCIL WILL SEE THE US AS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE IF WE DO NOT BRING THE TRUSTEESHIP

TO A SUCCESSFUL CLOSE IN THE RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE. AND
OTHER FORCES WITHIN THE UN--INCLUDING THE COMMITTEE OF
24--WILL ADD THEIR VOICES TO FOCUS WORLD ATTENTION
ON THE TTPI AS THE LAST REMAINING UN TRUST TERRITORY.
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